

COLUMBIA.

Wednesday Morning, April 4, 1866.

Financial.

The New York Times very truly says that Secretary McCulloch does not exaggerate when he declares that it will "be a national calamity if Congress shall fail to grant additional powers to the Secretary." The whole tenor of his letter to the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee shows that these additional powers are sought, not to magnify his office or enable him to carry out a policy of the principles of which the country is ignorant, but merely to enable him to hold gamblers and inflationists in subjection, and to maintain unflinchingly the policy which has already been attended with the happiest results.

According to some of Mr. McCulloch's opponents, the great source of financial danger lies in what they allege to be excessive importations of foreign goods. They complain that speculation is rife, and that to restore specie payments, it is only necessary to restrain the speculative spirit in business matters. It does not seem to have occurred to them that the speculative operations of which they complain, are an incident inseparable from an inflated currency—that they originated, in common with many other speculations, in the flood of inconvertible paper, which was occasioned by the necessities of war—and that they will continue so long as Congress shall resist the efforts of the Treasury to "adopt a healthy financial policy." The gentlemen who profess to deprecate ballooning in business, and to desire the restoration of trade to a sound basis, make themselves responsible for much of the existing evil when they refuse to sanction the policy of contraction, of which the Secretary is the consistent and the cautious advocate.

Others rest their refusal upon the allegation that the country is progressing toward resumption rapidly enough. That it has made some progress in that direction is undeniable. That the appreciation in the value of greenbacks during the last few months has exceeded popular expectation, is perhaps equally true. But to what is the gratifying circumstance attributable? Certainly in part to the determined stand which the present Secretary made against a continuance of inflation and in favor of a return to a specie basis. Nobody doubts that the enormous premium upon gold which was maintained during the closing year of the war, was less the result of legitimate causes than of the gambling combinations, whose operations were pursued with an utter indifference to everything but their own profit. But for the gamblers, greenbacks might have been kept at a steady and not immoderate discount. And why is a paper dollar worth more to-day than it was six months ago? Why has the price of gold declined continually, until men begin to speak with confidence of the time when five dollars in greenbacks shall be equal to five dollars in gold, and when honest coin shall once more enter into the transactions of daily life? Why? Is it not because the known views and policy of the head of the Treasury Department have cowed the gold gamblers, and broken up their combinations? Is it not because the power already wielded by the Secretary has been exerted to check wild speculation, to frustrate knavish manoeuvres, and to prepare the moneyed and the mercantile classes for a return to the honest, old-fashioned basis of gold and silver? Is it not also because the authority sought by the Secretary would make his plans yet more efficacious, and because its application in one shape or another has been anticipated?

The Charleston papers state that President has issued a lengthy proclamation, declaring that the insurrection which has heretofore existed in the States of Georgia, North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, Alabama, Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi and Florida is at an end, and is henceforth so to be regarded.

The telegram must have omitted the State of South Carolina, or else the President must have special reasons for not placing her on the list of his general amnesty.

The Courier announces the death of James W. Brown, Esq., a prominent citizen of Charleston.

The Methodists.

The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, meets to-day in New Orleans. The result of the war has left the Church in a very peculiar position in some respects. First, the title—"Methodist Episcopal Church, South"—which can be changed only by the General Conference, is objectionable. The Church does not propose to confine its operations to the South, "so called." She has already, since the war closed, received a large accession of members from one of the annual conferences formerly attached to the Northern General Conference, and proposes to get rid of a sectional name, so that her influence may be co-extensive with the Union. The title proposed by Drs. Doggett and Edwards, and others, is "Episcopal Methodist Church," which strikes us—who, perhaps, have no right to say so—as being very expressive, distinctive and appropriate.

Another matter which will come before the General Conference, is the question as to how long a minister should be allowed to serve one congregation. A strong disposition is manifested by many of the most thoughtful minds among the clergy, to extend the period hitherto allowed.

We also notice that proposals are made to publish the Episcopal service in connection with the Discipline, &c. From present appearances, it would seem that the Methodist Church will become blended with the "Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States"—a happy re-union, and in consonance with the advice of the great founder of Methodism.

President Johnson on Ireland.

We extract the following paragraphs from the proceedings of a public meeting and dinner held at Belfast:

The Chairman rose and said: Gentlemen, I am perfectly certain that the toast I am now about to propose will receive a hearty response in every part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and in no part will it receive more than in the Province of Ulster, and especially in the town of Belfast. (Hear, and applause.) United as we are with the great American nation in commerce, and friendship, and common kindred, we naturally take a deep interest in her concerns and prosperity, and we all feel a deep interest in the President of the United States, whose health I have now to propose. (Applause.) He came to his present position under circumstances we all deplore. (Hear, hear.) Perhaps nowhere was there a more heartfelt expression of sympathy for those who were affected by that fatal circumstance than in the town of Belfast—(applause)—but we rejoice to-day that the man who has succeeded him is fitted to fill that position. (Hear.) All his acts have shown that he is the man fitted for the high position in which he is placed. He is a man of sound judgment—a man possessing what is a great acquisition—good common sense. He is a man who is desirous to forgive what is past, and make the best of the worst. (Hear, and applause.) Gentlemen, while America has many things in common with ourselves, we can now say that he who sets his foot on American soil, as well as British, is free—(applause)—and, therefore, with heartfelt satisfaction and delight do we drink "The health of his Excellency President Johnson." (Loud applause.)

The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm. Ensign Leary then sang "The Star Spangled Banner."

SOUTHERN RELIEF SOCIETIES.—We find the following kind and complimentary notice of us in the New York correspondence of the Hartford Times, a paper edited by General Hawley:

"Speaking of this, brings to mind the great Relief Fair, to be held in Baltimore soon. The public are asked by the committee having the thing in charge, to forward money or anything else. And several complimentary notices have been obtained in the New York papers. Now, I look upon this enterprise as one simply designed to aid prominent ex-rebels, who consumed their substance in endeavoring to overthrow the Government.

"It certainly looks so, when Mason is announced as the agent of the association abroad. Though the Southerners have gone astray, they are countrymen and brethren, and we at the North have shown a generosity only equalled by our magnanimity in contributing to their necessities. It is too much, however, to ask of us to co-operate with a movement which is engineered by such men as the arch-traitor Mason. We can dispose of our loose change and old clothes to better advantage."

It was rumored in New York, on Wednesday, that the Breyort Insurance Company was about to suspend. It has lost very heavily lately.

England and Ireland.

John Mitchell, in his last Paris letter to the New York News, has the following:

The liberal and enlightened British Government is still crowding the jails with "suspected" persons, many of them still being American citizens. French "Liberals," who take England as their model of everything good, are a little puzzled. Some are giving up their idol, dropping it like a hot potato; but other faithful devotees hold by their Anglican religion—especially the "doctrinaire" writers of the *Revue des Deux Mondes*. I send you a translation of a letter of my own to *The Opinion Nationale*, which may interest a portion of your readers:

To the Redacteur en Chef of *The Opinion Nationale*.

MONSIEUR: I read in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, of the 1st February, over the signature of M. E. Forcade, the following sentences:

"English statesmen of our time have intended to be just to Ireland, and have shown themselves truly liberal to her. Ireland has been admitted to all the liberties enjoyed by England."

One would have some difficulty in comprehending how a writer in the celebrated *Revue* should be so very ill informed on the affairs of Ireland, but that we know the habit which "liberal" publicists in France have contracted, of taking all their information upon our country from the articles of the British press and the speeches of English statesmen in their Parliament. To say that Ireland is governed by the same laws as England—that she has not to complain of any inequality, nor of any exceptional code of laws—and that the disaffection of that country is nothing but a remnant of the old national animosity, which may have been justified, perhaps, a century or two ago, but which is now an obvious anachronism—to say, and to repeat, and to persist in repeating all this, is the fashion in England.

To show how completely these assertions are contradicted by the facts, it suffices to cite the following extract from the declaration of Irish grievances, lately published by the National Irish League, (which has nothing in common with Fenianism,) and signed with the honorable names of John Martin and The O'Donoghue: 9. Although Ireland and England are nominally "united" in one kingdom, yet it is against the law for Irishmen to enroll themselves in volunteer companies for defence of their country, as the English do. And for Irishmen to train or drill, or be trained or drilled—even without arms—is made a felony, punishable by transportation, by an Act of Parliament which does not apply to England, Scotland or Wales.

Since the year 1800, when the so-called Union was effected, very many acts of Parliament have been passed relating to the possession and use of arms in Ireland, all calculated to keep the great mass of our people unarmed. But no part of this code applies to England, Scotland or Wales. It is against the law for Irishmen in Ireland to take counsel together touching their own public affairs by purpose. But this disability does not exist in England, Scotland or Wales.

The above-mentioned laws—to prohibit conventions of delegates, to restrict the possession of arms, and to punish training and drilling—serve to prevent Irishmen both from authoritative consultation and from effectual action in their own public affairs. None of those laws apply to Englishmen, who are nevertheless styled our fellow-citizens.

10. In England, trial by jury means trial by twelve of the neighbors impartially impelled, without reference to creed or to politics. But in Ireland, when a man is charged with anything styled a political offence, then trial by jury means arraignment before twelve particular persons carefully selected by the Government out of its own partisans.

Even putting aside, for the moment, all the other differences which exist in the laws, and still more in the administration of the two countries, it seems to me that a "liberal" Frenchman, without prejudices, on considering even the few details which I have mentioned, (and which are sufficiently notorious,) should be slow to affirm "that Ireland has been admitted to all the liberties enjoyed by England."

As to the matters of the packing of Irish juries, the authors of the "Declaration of Grievances" have not explained the means and method whereby the British Government has always the power "to select the jury-men from among its partisans." It is by means of the sheriffs of the towns, (where political trials are usually held.) It is these sheriffs, in fact, who arrange, entirely at their own discretion, the lists of persons summoned to serve as jurors for each Assizes or Commission. Now, in England, the sheriffs of corporate towns are always elected by their fellow-townsmen. In Ireland, they are all appointed by the Government. This fundamental distinction, carefully preserved in the "Municipal Reform Law for Ireland," was intended expressly to put the British Government in a position always to pack its jury, when there was a political enemy to be suppressed.

It is right to add, that all this special code of laws, applicable to our country alone, are perfectly justified

in the eyes of Englishmen, even the most "liberal," and by the following considerations:

If the Irish had the liberty, as the English have, of electing delegates and organizing a convention, they would immediately publish a declaration of independence.

If the Irish had the liberty, as the English have, of banding themselves together in arms as volunteers, they would maintain, in arms, the declaration of their convention. In fact, it was a convention of Irish volunteers, which, in 1782, pronounced the independence and sovereignty of the kingdom; and it was the arms of those volunteers which made good that independence for eighteen years.

If the Irish had the liberty, as the English have, of procuring arms, and learning the use of them, the first use they would put them to would be to exterminate the English garrisons.

If the Irish had the right, as the English have, to be tried before twelve of their peers and neighbors, impartially empanelled according to law, then it would be necessary for the English Government to renounce forever all attempts to convict any Irishman whomsoever, of any crime or offence whatever against the Queen and Government of England; that is to say, British government would no longer subsist in that country.

Such is the imperative necessity for the English (if they desire to maintain the British empire) to maintain and perpetrate in Ireland this exceptional code—of which it is not my purpose here to consider the justice and morality. But let no Frenchman again deny its existence.

In Memory of the Confederate Dead.

The Columbus (Ga.) Sun and Times publishes the following communication, dated Columbus, Georgia, March 10, 1866:

MESSRS EDITORS: The ladies are now, and have been for several days, engaged in the sad but pleasant duty of ornamenting and improving that portion of the city cemetery, sacred to the memory of our gallant Confederate dead, but we feel it an unfinished work unless a day be set apart annually for its especial attention. We cannot raise monumental shafts, and inscribe thereon their many deeds of heroism, but we can keep alive the memory of the debt we owe them, by at least dedicating one day in each year to embellish their humble graves with flowers. Therefore, we beg the assistance of the press and the ladies throughout the South, to aid us in our efforts to set apart a certain day to be observed from the Potomac to the Rio Grande, and be handed down through time as a religious custom of the country, to wreath the graves of our martyred dead with flowers. [We would propose the — day of April, as at that time our land may be truly called the "land of flowers."] Let every city, town and village, join in the pleasant duty; let all alike be remembered, from the heroes of Manassas to those who expired amid the death throes of our hallowed cause. We'll crown alike the honored resting places of the immortal Jackson, in Virginia, Johnson, of Shiloh, Cleburne, in Tennessee, and the host of gallant privates who adorned our ranks—all did their duty, and to all we owe our gratitude. Let the soldier's grave for that day at least be the Southern Mecca, to whose shrine her sorrowing women, like pilgrims, may annually bring their grateful hearts and floral offerings. And when we remember the thousands who were buried with "their martial cloaks around them," without Christian ceremony of interment for their beloved bodies, we would invoke the aid of the most thrilling eloquence throughout the land, to inaugurate this custom, by delivering on the appointed day, this year, an eulogy on the unburied dead of our glorious Southern army. They died for their country. Whether their country had, or had not, the right to demand the sacrifice, is no longer a question of discussion with us. We leave that for the future nation to decide. That it was demanded, that they nobly responded, and fell holy sacrifices upon their country's altar, and are thereby entitled to their country's gratitude, none will deny.

The proud banner under which they rallied in defence of the noblest cause for which heroes fought, or trusting woman prayed, has been furled forever. The country for which they suffered and died has now no name or place among the nations of the earth. Legislative enactments may not now be made to do honor to their memories—but the veriest radical that ever traced his genealogy back to the deck of the May Flower could not deny us the simple privilege of paying honor to those who died defending the life, honor and happiness of the SOUTHERN WOMEN.

CONDITION OF MEXICO.—The San Antonio Ledger, recording the arrival of Colonel J. R. Sweet, direct from Matamoros, says:

To our inquiries about Mexico, the colonel said he thought the Empire was the best Government Mexico had had since Cortez first landed upon its coast. That Mexico was divided by intestine feuds—demagogues and aspirants for glory were numerous as leaves of Valambrosa. That the Empire gives security for life and property; that Maximilian was a good, noble-hearted man, and desired the happiness and prosperity of Mexico.

From Washington.

A lull in Congressional proceedings will follow the Senate exploit of ejecting Mr. Stockton and the shock of the veto message. The House will not be full for a week or more, as has been stated by one of its members. It is a season when members like an opportunity, if possible, to visit their homes. Besides, Congress takes as much interest in the grand object of negro suffrage. If they carry the former, they will insure the latter. Connecticut, last fall, gave 6,000 majority against negro suffrage in that Republican State. If the Republicans again carry it, Congress will be encouraged to insist on negro suffrage.

The New York Tribune declares that the veto message renders it absolutely necessary that the blacks should be protected by giving them the right of suffrage.

If the Connecticut election is carried, as it probably will be, by the Republicans, it will be "aimed as the victory of radicalism." This will humble and discourage the few Republicans who have manifested conservative proclivities. We shall witness its mischievous effects in all the future political legislation of Congress.

Se. tors are now in Connecticut, deeming their duties there of more importance than those in the Senate for the present. On Monday, perhaps, they will hear arguments against the veto message; and on Tuesday, if their new recruits are all in place, they will overwhelm the President's message.

The bankrupt bill will be tried again in a fuller House. Some of its friends regard it with less interest now than they did before it was so essentially modified.

SIGNS OF FAILING COURAGE.—A radical Washington correspondent of the radical Chicago Tribune writes to that journal, in a very depressed state of mind, touching the growing nervousness of the Republican majority in Congress, at the prospect of meeting the people in the fall elections. He declares that they would do justice to the negro, but dare not. He says:

"It is capable of demonstration, that instead of progress, there has been unmistakable retrogression, on the part of the majority in both Houses since the opening of the session, in regard to the political advancement of the colored race. Without fear of contradiction, I assert that the determination of the radical members to secure to the emancipated blacks, if not a full, at least a partial, measure of political rights by Congressional action, was made more decided in December than at the present time. And more than this, a disposition to abstain entirely during the remainder of the session from any attempts to enforce the recognition of their rights in the several States, by direct or indirect legislation, has been of late becoming more and more manifest. This disinclination, or rather hesitation, to follow the exact line of policy prescribed by humanity and justice, arises, not from an absolute surrender of former convictions, but from mistaken impressions that considerations of expediency forbid action in strict accordance with them. A belief has been steadily growing in the minds of members, that it would not do to go before the people with the question of political rights for the negroes, and that if the immediate or gradual elevation of the freed people to political equality were made a prominent issue in the elections during the coming summer and fall, the Republican party would be beaten, and lose predominance in the national council. This apprehension, and the desire to avoid so calamitous a contingency, has done more to regulate the tone and character of political legislation during the last two weeks than a just regard for the claims of the freedmen to Congressional interference in behalf of their undeniable rights."

"Indeed, the solicitude of the majority is now more to fix up issues for the contest of parties in the States holding elections in the course of this year, in a form promising success, than to follow, regardless of temporary consequences, the straight road of faithfulness to principle."

This is undoubtedly a correct statement of the position of the radicals. The blindest of them see that they have been going too far in the negro business, and they dread meeting the people. Hence their desperation—the expelling of Democrats to carry their pet measures, and their inability to agree upon a plan of restoration which would meet the wishes of the factions, and be at all tolerable to the country.

But the failing courage of the radicals is an excellent sign. The confidence and vigor with which they opened the campaign when Congress met has been changed to a very irresolute bearing. The manifestation of violence and fraud shown by expelling Democrats is a sign of weakness, not of strength, and shows that they realize they have no future, and must carry their measures now or never.—*New York World*.

The Charleston Courier states that John Lee, who, for the past half century, has been known as one of her highly respected colored residents; departed this life on last Friday, in the seventy-third year of his age.

Local Items.

Mortgages and Conveyances of Real Estate for sale at this office.

CASH.—Our terms for subscription, advertising and job work are cash. We hope all parties will bear this in mind.

THE BURNING OF COLUMBIA.—An interesting account of the "Sack and Destruction of the City of Columbia, S. C.," has just been issued, in pamphlet form, from the Phoenix steam power press. Orders can be filled to any extent.

We are indebted to Mr. A. L. Solomon for a bottle of "creature comfort" and a liberal supply of assorted crackers and cheese. His stock of goods is varied, and has just been replenished. As he fully understands the wants of the community, consumers would, doubtless, find it advantageous to give him a call. The store is easily found—two doors East of the Shiner House.

R. & W. C. SWAFFIELD.—We call attention to the advertisement of these gentlemen, found in our columns, this morning. Our citizens, for many years, have known the senior member of this firm, and in every transaction in business, have found him true and correct in every particular. We commend the firm to the patronage of our readers.

THE NEW CITY COUNCIL.—The members of the new Council were sworn in yesterday morning, and immediately proceeded to business. We hope that among the first matters brought up for consideration before the new body will be the erection of a city hall, a clock and a bell to indicate the hours and serve as a fire-alarm. The cost of these improvements can be but light when compared with their great necessity. We have no doubt that the money can be raised very readily.

PHAROAH'S SERPENTS.—If you want to fully appreciate the aptness of the following lines, call on Mr. McKenzie and invest in a box of the eggs:

From the little cone of silver foil That fizzes and fumes with a fretful fire, There coozes a serpent all yellow and ribbed. That rolls and thickens, and curls still higher.

The magic thing, as if by a spell, Suddenly ceases its sluggish crawl. Its fiery breath has quite burnt out. And leaves a coil of dust—that's all.

The wise man's toy is a type of life. And all our struggles for paltry things: Our diplomatic treaties and talk, Tangled and bound with red-tape strings; Our spiders' webs, and our subtle plans; Our love and joy, and our brittle dreams; Our poor ambitions, that fleet away Fast as the winter torrent's streams.

Alexander's conquests, Caesar's spoils; All that we hate, and all that we trust; The beggar's fears, and the rich man's hopes— All end at last in the pinch of dust.

PICKMONT TO COLUMBIA AND CHARLESTON.—The question is repeatedly asked, "What is the fare from Richmond, Virginia to Columbia and Charleston, South Carolina?" Having recently traveled over the route and taken special pains to get thorough posted on the matter, we give the following information:

Richmond to Greensboro, North Carolina—190 miles; fare, \$11.50. Greensboro to Charlotte, North Carolina—90 miles; fare, \$5.50. Charlotte to Doko, South Carolina—93 miles; fare, \$8. Doko to Columbia—7 miles; (D. T. Harvey's line of stage fare, \$1. Columbia to Charleston—1 miles; fare, \$7.50.

Passengers leave Columbia in the evening, at 6 o'clock, and arrive in Richmond in about forty-four hours. There is a detention of six or eight hours in Greensboro, on the return trip, which we hope will be remedied in a short time. In fact, in six or eight weeks' time, we expect the railroads will all be in good order, when the schedule will be reduced to about twenty-four hours between Columbia and the capital of the Old Dominion.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.—Attention is called to the following advertisements, which are published this morning for the first time:

J. Hattiwanger—\$75 Reward.
Chas. Logan—House to Rent.
Apply at the Office—Cottage to Rent.
R. & W. C. Swaffield—New Goods.
J. A. Enslow & Co.—Cargo Sale.
C. Gravelle—Hardware, &c.
Richland Lodge—Regular Communication.
Jones & Clark—Confederate Generals.
J. S. Birge—Hogs, Goats, &c.
R. Johnson—Pocket-book Lost.
J. L. Boatwright—Adm'ts Notice.
Hugh Weir—Estray Mule.
Gates street—Room to rent.

CATCHING A TARTAR.—Neglect your teeth and you will soon catch a tartar there. Manipulate them daily with that rare vegetable compound, Sozodent, and neither tartar nor canker, or any dental disease, can ever infect or injure either them or the red cushions in which they are inserted.

MR. LINCOLN AGAINST THE RADICALS.—Col. Lamon, late marshal of this District, and the intimate, confidential friend of President Lincoln, writes a letter, stating "that he is entirely certain, from Mr. Lincoln's repeated declarations, that he would have exerted all his authority, power and influence, to bring about an immediate reconciliation between the two sections of the country. As far as depended upon him, he would have had the Southern States represented in both Houses of Congress within the shortest possible time. Mr. Lincoln knew the base designs of the radicals to keep up the strife for their own advantage, and he was determined to thwart them, as he himself told me often."

[Washington Cor. Baltimore Sun]

There are at present Mr. Stanton's negro teeth United States